SCDC Minutes - March 9, 2020

Attendees: Barbara Borst (CMU), Diana Carney (Alliance), Dawn Combe (Regis), Beth Denker (Alliance), Katy DiVittorio (Aur), Rhonda Glazier (UCCS), Jessica Hayden (UNC), Lisa Hughes (CMU), Yumin Jiang (UCHSC), Kathleen Kucharski (USAFA), Jennifer Lawson (CSU-Pueblo), Jennifer Leffler (UNC), Kayla Lenkner (CC), Allison Level (CSU), Michael Levine-Clark (DU), Dave Macauley (UW), George Machovec (Alliance), Ellen Metter (Aur), Shannon Tharp (DU), Tiffanie Wick (WCSU), Gabby Wiersma (CUB)

1. Elsevier

· Discuss response & questions from Elsevier (attached): George reported on a few Elsevier responses from the Midwinter meeting. The Alliance wants resetting of the base Freedom Collection cost and Elsevier mentioned it might be possible to reduce the cost by reducing some of the subscribed to titles. Shared titles drive perpetual access; it will be worth looking at how many titles are shared across the subscribed to list. It might enable cancelling of some subscribed to titles if there are three or more subscribers. Smaller sites have far fewer subscribed to titles. Elsevier has formerly rejected the idea of reducing subscribed to titles, but now appears willing to consider it. Gabby would like more information from Elsevier about proportional cost to usage. Perhaps this would be a cost resetting factor. Beth will send an updated subscribed to title list soon.

The Alliance also asked for a 0% inflation rate; the current rate is 3.75%. This reduction seems unreasonable to Elsevier. The Alliance committee believes a 2% increase seems reasonable if the base cost is reduced. Ideally there should be a combination of Elsevier giving a little and not just Alliance title cuts. The Alliance will push for a lower inflation rate no matter what.

Please send your comments on these issues to Beth.

· Update on current Freedom Collection invoicing: Beth is waiting for reconciliation of numbers with Elsevier. Numbers are different on invoices than what she had figured. She is in touch with them, but they are not being very responsive.

2. Unpaywall

Update on interested libraries and moving forward: Unpaywall is a tool that plugs into journal databases and analyzes COUNTER stats. The product would provide an indication of how much libraries would need to rely on ILL in the event of Elsevier cancellation. George will set up a demo. All Alliance libraries need to participate and it needs to happen soon to inform the Elsevier negotiation.

3. MIT Licensing Principles: best practices. Does the Alliance want to endorse these principles as part of our vision for what we want our purchasing to look like? If all are in agreement George will forward to the Member Council for their approval. CUB has endorsed these and is also drafting some of their own best practices.

4. New publisher ebook offers

· De Gruyter University Press ebooks - Beth is reviewing this product as it provides a good deal more content (almost 100% university press coverage) than the current DDA and UPSO products. It may serve as a replacement for one or both, but it is very expensive. One advantage of the De Gruyter program is ILL permission. Beth will provide more information and pricing. Please think about your ebook collection strategy going forward.

· Springer ebooks contract update - Beth just received the new contract; call her if you do not have 2020 ebook access.

· Taylor & Francis ebooks: T&F left the DDA program in 2018 and no T&F ebooks are being purchased through the Alliance. A subset of the SCDC group was going to meet about this, but haven't had time yet.

SCDC needs some strategy for ebook purchases. Please think about your priorities on ebook purchasing for the next in-person meeting.

5. In-person SCDC meeting agenda - we will monitor the corona virus and decide on the in-person meeting by end the of March

· George recommended April 13, 10am-2pm at the Alliance office with lunch provided.

· Possible discussion topics: Ebook strategy/principles and new publisher direct offers and the Elsevier offer as it stands at that point.

6. SPARC Journal Negotiation Working Group updates

· Journal Reinvestment Group (Katy) - This group is looking at how institutions who have cancelled journal deals can reallocate funds. They are gathering data and writing a white paper to share with the community.

7. ProQuest/ExLibris Library Symposium at DU (April 9th): The agenda for this meeting includes text and data mining, Ex-Libris services with a focus on resource sharing since the acquisition of Rapid and Innovative Interfaces.

8. Other new offers/renewals (Beth)

· Gale GVRL and 3rd party publisher titles - There has been a little interest in the offer. The cut-off date is March 15th. If interested, let Beth know before Friday. Discounts offered are by publisher. The GVRL group renewal is in the works.

· ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication (trial active now). There is a lot of interest in this product; the trial ends on March 23rd.

Beth has a couple of other offers she will send out soon.